

# **CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2005**

**WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**400 PHENIX AVENUE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 P.M.**

**PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 P.M.**

## **MINUTES**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cranston School Committee was held on the evening of the above date at Western Hills Middle School with the following members present: Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Palumbo, Mr. Stycos, and Mr. Traficante. Also present were Mrs. Ciarlo, Mr. Scherza, Mr. Balducci, and Mr. Votto.

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. It was moved and seconded and unanimously carried that the members adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel pursuant to RI State Laws 42-46-5(1) and contract and litigation pursuant to 42-46-5(2).

The meeting reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

The roll was called and the Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

**Mr. Palumbo welcomed Commissioner Peter McWalters and Mr. James DiPrete, Chairman of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education.**

**Mr. DiPrete stated that he was honored to be here this evening to make a very special presentation to a very special person, but he was doubly honored because he was born in this City and is a product of the Cranston Public School System and taught in it as well. Tonight we salute the citizens of Cranston, all of the students, all of the teachers, and certainly all of its civic leaders who spend a great deal of time and effort providing the resources that are translated in making Cranston and continuing in Cranston one of the premier educational systems in the state. He says this not because he feels it in his heart but because the statistics show us. He has had the pleasure of knowing Superintendent Ciarlo for well over forty years when they started in the system together and certainly know Mike Traficante and Gordon Palumbo with whom he taught. He has had the pleasure of working with special people but none as giving, as understanding, and as caring and as tough as Catherine Ciarlo. She says what she means, and she means what she says; and she has never wavered from being a support for her students. That is where the focus was when they first met, and that is what the focus is today.**

**So, here this evening we salute her, and a special presentation will be made.**

**He would ask the Commissioner of Education for this state, Mr. Peter McWalters, who in his own right has distinguished himself not only in Rhode Island but also throughout the United States and abroad to make a special presentation.**

**Commissioner McWalters echoed Mr. DiPrete's sentiments. He was here tonight with the Annual Superintendent of the Year Award which will be awarded to Catherine. Like Jim, he had a need to stop for a moment and make sure people get the full weight of the honor they are conveying. He has been here for thirteen years and watched Catherine go through a number of transitions. He has watched the state itself struggle with both the cost of education, focus of education, the accountability and infrastructure of education, and getting the results. He stands here tonight unashamedly suggesting that Cranston has in their Superintendent, Catherine Ciarlo, one of the most outstanding professionals he has ever worked with. This strikes him as one of those rare moments when there is the old guard and the new guard in one person. This is somebody who can still stand up in this community as a community force that when Catherine Ciarlo speaks one is going to listen to her. She can stand in front of the state and stand with her teachers and her principals and show the student results over the last three to five years then he must tell everyone they are absolutely extraordinary. He showcases many of her schools in the last few years as places that have been**

dedicated to move these indicators and using best practice in a good sense of collegiality. This community, like all communities in this state right now, is struggling. They are struggling to afford and to stay on task, but tonight Cranston needs to celebrate this woman; and with Jim DiPrete, would like to present Catherine with a certificate which states: The State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation, Rhode Island Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education, honors Catherine M. Ciarlo, Superintendent of the Year, in recognition of her service and dedication to the children of Rhode Island. The Commissioner congratulated Mrs. Ciarlo, and she received a standing ovation. A photograph was taken with Commissioner McWalters and Mr. DiPrete.

Mrs. Ciarlo stated that she had no idea this presentation would be made this evening. When she saw the Commissioner, she said to herself that she hadn't been in trouble so far today and wondered the reason for him and Mr. DiPrete attending this meeting. She further commented that she was very honored and accepted the award on behalf of all the wonderful people that she works with, both the teachers, parents, and administrators. It is certainly a pleasure, and she continued to feel that it doesn't seem like forty-five years. She thanked them and hoped to continue because the district is as good as its last test scores. She and the district will continue to do the best they can.

## **I. COMMUNICATIONS**

**Mr. Stycos asked where the committee stood on presenting its budget to the Mayor and City administration. In response, Mr. Scherza said that he received a notice this afternoon that the school department is scheduled to appear before the Finance**

**Committee on May 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at Cranston High School West.**

**Mr. Stycos asked if the committee and administration has met or plans to meet with city administration before the Mayor submits his budget to the Council. Mr. Palumbo responded that there are no plans to speak with the Mayor. The budget along with a letter from Mr. Palumbo was forwarded to the Mayor indicating what was being done. Nothing further would take place until the committee and administration meets with the Council. Mrs. Ciarlo added that this doesn't mean that administration won't meet with the Mayor. If the Mayor calls and requests a meeting, administration would be more than willing to discuss any matters on the budget. The ball in his court because he has the budget.**

**Mr. Lupino asked how administration was progressing with the new position for an auditor. Mr. Balducci responded that the job specs have been put together by his office. He believed the position would be advertised in the newspaper by Wednesday of this week. It will be**

**advertised for two or three weeks.**

## **II. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Mr. Lupino reported that the regularly scheduled meeting of the School Buildings Committee for February was held on March 8th. The two major points of discussion at that meeting was the acceptance, after much discussion and argument, of the design build model for the addition at Cranston East. Presently that project is in the hands of the city who needs to come up with the bonding authority. In addition, the Cranston East and Oak Lawn roofs went out to bid last week, and they should be replaced this coming summer. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 29th.**

**Mr. Traficante added that the Cranston East project will be a rather new concept for the City of Cranston in terms of the format to develop it. It will be a design build type of project. The only other building in the City of Cranston that was built with a design build concept is the Cranston Youth Center. This will be a new venue for the City of Cranston with a \$9 million project.**

**Mr. Stycos reported that a meeting of the Nutrition Committee was held. The next meeting is scheduled for April 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Park View library. He hoped the committee could finalize the group of**

resolutions that would be brought before the School Committee for the May meeting.

**Page 4      March 21, 2005**

Mr. Palumbo stated that the legislature has proposed legislation regarding food served during school lunches. He asked Mr. Stycos if he wished to comment on this, and he indicated that it was a good idea to have a committee to bounce ideas around. The legislation states that a majority of the members have to be non-employees of the school department, and he felt his committee was fairly close to that specification. In addition, his committee is a Nutrition Committee, and the state is calling for a nutrition and physical exercise committee.

Mr. Traficante reported that the sub-committee for the rules changes has completed their draft. The sub-committee consists of Ms. Iannazzi, Mrs. Greifer, and himself. The draft has been submitted to the Chairperson for his review to present it to the committee at the April work shop session. This sub-committee is promoting a new concept for a consent agenda which will be utilized this evening.

Mrs. Greifer reported that the Cranston Educational Advisory Board had their meeting on March 7th. Mr. Scherza gave a presentation on

**the budget. The next meeting is scheduled for April 4th. The Special Education Parent Advisory Board had their meeting on March 1st. Among the topics of discussion was the impact of the Governor's proposed budget cuts on parents who have students with special needs. Their next meeting is April 5th.**

**Mr. Stycos reported that there was a second meeting regarding using the RIPTA bus system for busing high school students. The meeting was non-conclusive, and they will meet again after Mr. Zisseron looks at some things.**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried that the March 21, 2005 Executive Session minutes remain confidential.**

**III. MINUTES – February 7, 2005; February 14, 2005;  
February 15, 2005**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried that the February 7, 2005; February 14, 2005; and February 15, 2005 minutes be approved.**

**IV. SPEAKERS – Agenda Items**

**Alex Caserta, 90 Derbyshire Drive – Mr. Caserta stated that he wished to speak on the budget revision. He said that at Cranston High School West they have a class that is called Media Studies I and II that is taught by Mr. Jones. This is a class that has worked on the school newspaper for a number of years. There is some conflict in that the teacher informed the students today that they didn't know if they would have enough**

**Page 5      March 21, 2005**

**money to continue publishing the paper and that they needed \$700 to come up with enough money for the next issue that would be published. He didn't think that the school board was aware of this situation. He talked to the teacher about this at the beginning of the school year. They have one Pentium 3 computer which they use to create layout for the paper, two computers that don't work at all, one that can't print from**

**the use of a floppy disk and the Internet doesn't always work on it. The second computer does not work when connected; it doesn't have a monitor. They have one G-4 MacIntosh computer for video and video yearbooks. They have a computer that is also used for broadcasting by the newspaper students. They have mini DV tapes for filming; two Sony video cameras, one that doesn't work and the program has no money to have it repaired; two video camera tripods and a camera light; two to three batteries and a battery charger; an Epson printer which they use to print the rough draft of the**

newspaper. The program has to pay for its own ink cartridges which is approximately \$80 per cartridge. The paper comes out eight times a year which is twelve pages long. They have received many awards for this newspaper, and it seems a shame to him that there is no money available from the budget to support this program. He wanted to make all of the committee members aware of this because it is a worthwhile program in terms of saving, and he knows that the students work very hard; and they put out a heck of a good newspaper. Mrs. Ciarlo responded that this issue has not come to her desk that they will not be able to publish the newspaper because of problems with the supplies. Mrs. Ciarlo asked Mr. Lemoi to respond to Mr. Caserta's concerns. Mr. Lemoi stated that historically the media program has been funded through several sources. They have been able to purchase some of the equipment mentioned by Mr. Caserta through the soda machine funds. Other fund raisers have been conducted through the school. Historically the newspaper has been funded through ads that the students solicit as part of their curriculum. Approximately four or five years ago some parents felt it was not the proper way to fund the newspaper. A forum took place with Mrs. White and another member of the School Committee along with some parents to discuss this issue. They came to the conclusion at the end of the meeting that based on recommendations from a URI professor fund raising was an important part of this particular program because in real life students would be faced with that type of dilemma if they work for a newspaper or a magazine. They made the decision at that point in time to fund the program with

resources brought in from ads. Approximately one month ago it was brought to his attention by Mr. Laliberte the fact that they no longer could do that because it was unacceptable. Mrs. Ciarlo asked Mr. Lemoi if he had the funding to run the newspaper, and he responded that they had sufficient funds to run the day to day mechanics; but they don't have the money to produce the next two editions. Mrs. Ciarlo asked Mr. Lemoi when he was going to bring this matter to administration's attention, and he indicated that he would be doing it very soon. Mrs. Ciarlo indicated to Mr. Caserta that she would look into this matter, but she could promise him nothing at this time. She wants the newspaper to continue, and she will find some way to support it. She thanked him for bringing this matter to her attention. Mr. Caserta suggested the possibility of making this a vocational program.

Page 6      March 21, 2005

Mr. Lupino commented that many of the smaller Rhode Island newspaper groups always include a blank ad, but he never sees a solicitation in the West Wind for ads. He suggested that they may wish to do this in the next edition. Show a sample ad and how much it would cost to do it. An e-mail address or a phone number could be listed

for a response. Mr. Caserta responded that considering this is an actual course, other courses in the schools do not have to survive by raising their own money. It would be nice if the program could be

supported by the budget. Mr. Lupino disagreed with Mr. Laliberte; he thinks the newspapers survive because they sell advertising. Mr. Caserta stated that it would be true of professional newspapers. Mrs. Ciarlo commented that the school cannot require the students to solicit ads. Since it is a program in the schools, the district has an obligation to support it. Whatever is raised should be supplementary to the program. Mr. Caserta added that if the school relied on just what they raise there would be the possibility of not having a school newspaper, and that would be a shame.

Tricia Williams, 75 High School Avenue – Mrs. Williams asked the committee if the residents surrounding Cranston High School East would be notified when the construction would begin on the school's roof. Mr. Lupino stated that the construction will begin immediately after the close of school. Summer School is usually held at Cranston East, but it is being moved to Bain Middle School for this summer. They are projecting to finish the roof by the middle of August so that it can be tested before school starts. Mrs. William indicated that she wants to keep her smaller children away from the area.

Frank Flynn, President, Cranston Teachers' Alliance – Mr. Flynn stated that he wished to speak against Resolution No. 05-3-17 with regard to a personnel issue for athletic coaches. He indicated that he was surprised to see this listed in the agenda for this evening's meeting considering the fact that many people spent a great deal of time on a committee surrounding coaching issues and knowing that

coaches are contained as part of the collective bargaining process. Sports are an extension of the school program, and coaches, like all other extra-curricular and co-curricular positions, are part of the collective bargaining agreement. This resolution is a clear bad faith attempt to circumvent the bargaining process, the process they are currently engaged in. He would expect to see this as part of the administration's proposal in bargaining rather than to see it as an agenda item. He believed it violated the Michaelson Act, Title 28-9-3, Laws of the State of Rhode Island, which prohibit employers from making unilateral changes in working conditions without negotiating with the union. By telling people who have been coaching for twenty or thirty years that now all of a sudden they are not coaches any more and have to reapply for those positions clearly violates that principle. It is a violation of the Labor Relations Act, Article 28-7-13 for failure to bargain with the collective bargaining groups. It is a violation of Article 3, the committee's rights clause of the contract, because it is attempting to adopt a policy which conflicts with language presently in the collective bargaining agreement. It violates Article 24 which clearly speaks to extra-curricular activities in the selection of candidates for that. At no time in

Page 7      March 21, 2005

the history of Cranston Public Schools, to his knowledge, are incumbents for any positions, coaches, advisors, or department chairs where they are appointed annually or not, require to reapply

for those same positions. To do so unilaterally, is a violation of Article 18 by reducing the person in ranking compensation without just cause. All

contracts have a just cause provision in their contract. By unilaterally telling someone that he or she is no longer entitled to retain that position that they have done for many years is a violation of that principle. Over the past twenty years, the school department and the Alliance have been able to sit down and iron out many of their differences without going through the grievance rule. When they have had to go the grievance route, both exercised that; and both sides have had some wins and losses. They have gone to arbitration six times since 1981. Both have used and exercised that right to use that process to their benefit to resolve issues when they were unclear as to where they stood in how to resolve things. Now, all of a sudden, he sees something like this that takes it out of that realm and tries to put a different spin on it and circumvent the good faith and understanding that they have had for many years. Furthermore, it gives sweeping broad and sweeping discretion to the Director of Athletics with regard to posting positions which clearly could leave to making arbitrary decisions by deciding when to post something in the newspaper and when not to. When one looks at the "Resolve" underneath the evaluation piece, most of those things are currently in place. There is an annual evaluation. For anything that is a complaint or derogatory there is currently collective bargaining language that indicates that it has to be brought to the attention of the person when it has been brought to the Personnel Office. Mr.

Flynn further stated that he doesn't understand why both of these had to be subsequently added to a resolution like this. These positions exist in this contract; it is the only place they exist, and the salary and pay structure exist there as well. Therefore, any changes should be made during negotiations and not through this process. He respectfully requested that the committee withdraw this resolution to avoid a lengthy legal battle.

Mr. Stycos stated to Mr. Flynn that he made a couple of statements that it conflicts with the contract and that this should be bargained. Mr. Stycos asked Mr. Flynn what specifically should be bargained that is a change and what conflicts with the contract. Mr. Flynn referred to the first line of the proposed policy which stated, "All coaching positions, not just new positions or those in which the incumbent had decided he/she was not interested in reappointment will be adequately posted in each school building by the Superintendent. The position may at the discretion of the Athletic Director be advertised..." Mr. Stycos responded that whether or not the school department advertises in a newspaper would not be a factor. Mr. Flynn stated that he believed that these were clearly Cranston Teachers' Alliance positions first and foremost, and that this is an attempt to circumvent that process. Someone that is currently in a position, based on this language, that has been in that position for any number of years would have to reapply for that position. He felt it was a violation because someone was being removed without just cause. This policy states that they would have to reapply for those

positions according to this language. Mr. Stycos commented that the committee

Page 8      March 21, 2005

reappoints them every year unlike teachers or any other employee. Mr. Flynn responded that no one has to reapply for those positions. Mr. Palumbo stated that much of this conversation was getting too close to negotiations, and it should not be discussed in public.

Freda Lehrer, 63 Riverfarm Road – Mrs. Lehrer spoke on Resolution No. 05-3-17. She stated that she has served on many interview committees for hiring coaches, and she also served last year on the Coaching Committee. If this does end up as something that will go through the bargaining unit, she asked that a few things be considered at that time. Some of the frustration is that when one is looking at hiring a coach there is a definite difference between a coach who is in the bargaining unit and a coach who is not in the bargaining unit. What the district wants for the students who are athletes is to be able to hire the person who is going to be the best suited coach. Sometimes that is a difficult situation. On the flip side, when there is a coach who should not be rehired, there is a definite two sets of standards between when the person is in the bargaining unit and the person is not. It is actually better for the children when the coach is not in the bargaining unit because it is easier to get the most appropriate person to be coaching those kids. She knows the

committee can't do anything about it because it is in the bargaining unit right now, but she would love to see it out of the bargaining unit. In her husband's school system, teachers are hired on a yearly basis. Mr. Traficante has proposed some good ideas, but it needs to be ironed out. There are a lot of issues that should be put in black and white. She asked the committee to consider passing something where the committee appoints them and they are out of the bargaining unit.

John Mayer – He asked that the committee consider honoring the students now since they had to return home to do their homework. The committee would have the rest of the evening to discuss coaches. Mr. Palumbo responded that the committee has a certain order for the meeting to be conducted.

Mr. Lupino stated that the committee would be unable to vote on any of the resolutions before them at this meeting because of a resolution introduced by Mr. Archetto last month. His resolution was adopted by the committee. Mr. Lupino commented that he could see no reason for the resolution. He indicated at that time that past practice should be acceptable in defense of that resolution. He, Ms. Iannazzi, and Mrs. Greifer voted against that resolution, but it did pass. According to the resolution, all of tonight's resolutions should have the name of the sponsor. He particularly made a point at that meeting that when a resolution is sponsored by the committee he assumed it meant all members of the committee, but yet the resolution said that

it had to have the specific names. In the minutes, Mr. Lupino had said that it would be very cumbersome to say all the committee members' names. If the committee were to vote on any of these resolutions, they would be in violation of their own rules. The only way around it would be for someone from the majority vote on that resolution to now make a motion to bring it back for discussion.

Page 9      March 21, 2005

Mr. Archetto stated that he did not feel this would preclude the committee from voting on a resolution as long as the major sponsor acknowledges that he or she submitted the bill. Mr. Lupino responded that that was the entire discussion last time. The resolution asked for the names. He knows who the committee is, and that is what they had for many years, but Mr. Archetto said that he wanted to see specific names. The

committee knows who the Superintendent is; it is Catherine Ciarlo, but this agenda does not say Catherine Ciarlo's name. Mr. Archetto indicated to Mr. Lupino that all the committee needed was a verbal amendment for the sponsor to attach himself or herself to the bill. He told Mr. Lupino that he was making a lot to do about nothing. Mr. Lupino responded that Mr. Archetto's resolution was a lot to do about nothing. If any of these resolutions are voted down, then someone could make a point that the committee was in violation of their own rule. Mr. Archetto reiterated his earlier statement that all the committee needed was for the sponsor of each resolution, by verbal

**amendment, to attach his or her name to the bill.**

**Mr. Traficante commented that Robert's Rules of Order gives the committee the opportunity to dispense with the rules of any committee by majority vote. If the committee wishes to dispense the rules on this particular issue, they may do so.**

## **V. RESOLUTIONS**

### **SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**NO. 05-3-1 – Whereas, talented art students in grades 7 through 12 in middle, junior, and senior high schools of Rhode Island had an opportunity to win recognition for themselves and their school by participating in The Scholastic Art Awards of 2005, and**

**Whereas, this program is sponsored regionally by the Providence Journal and the Rhode Island Art Education Association and conducted nationally by The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, and**

**Whereas, approximately 125 Silver Keys have been awarded for outstanding work on the regional level and 75 Gold Key finalists have been selected and will be forwarded to New York City for the national competition where they will compete with finalists from over 60 other regions across the United States, and**

**Whereas, students in Cranston Public Schools earned 5 Gold Key Awards, 27 Silver Key Awards, and 1 Photography Portfolio Nomination,**

**Be it RESOLVED that these talented artists be recognized by the Cranston School Committee for their outstanding accomplishments, and**

**Page 10      March 21, 2005**

**Be it further RESOLVED that they be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.**

**CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL EAST**

<b>Lauren Ardito</b>	<b>Silver Key, Drawing</b>
<b>Chester Brown</b>	<b>Two Silver Keys, Drawing</b>
<b>Danielle Cohen</b>	<b>Silver Key, Drawing</b>
<b>Joshua Roberti</b>	<b>Silver Key, Drawing</b>
<b>Katie Sylvestre</b>	<b>Silver Key, Mixed Media</b>
<b>Anthony Williams</b>	<b>Gold Key, Drawing</b>

**CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST**

<b>Alexandra Almagno</b>	<b>Silver Key, Painting</b>
<b>Amanda DeFarno</b>	<b>Silver Key, Mixed Media</b>

**Nicole Dubois     Silver Key, Ceramics and Glass**  
**Allyson Dupont     Silver Key, Drawing**  
**Christopher Moore     Photography Portfolio Nominee**  
**Jessica Thurber     Silver Key, Painting**

#### **PARK VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Ashley Addison     Silver Key, Sculpture**  
**Laisha Crum     Gold Key, Painting**  
**Leonardo Deluzio     Gold Key, Drawing**  
**Benjamin Dyer     Silver Key, Drawing**  
**Gregory Hawkins     Silver Key, Plans and Models**  
**Ruta Nikitska     Silver Key, Painting**  
**Xena Pope     Silver Key, Drawing**  
**Michael Rose     Silver Key, Mixed Media**  
**Patrick Rush     Silver Key, Mixed Media**  
**Patrick Rush     Silver Key, Printmaking**  
**Jessica Sullivan     Silver Key, Drawing**  
**Soo-Hye Yeom     Silver Key, Drawing**

#### **BAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Sara Larrabee     Silver Key, Printmaking**  
**Michaela Link     Silver Key, Sculpture**  
**Corey Mendonca     Silver Key, Mixed Media**  
**Yee Poon     Silver Key, Drawing**  
**Dawn Vittorioso     Gold Key, Sculpture**

## **WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Brittany Dias      Silver Key, Drawing**

**Alisha Mayer      Silver Key, Painting**

**Matthew Osenkowski      Gold Key, Drawing**

**Page 11      March 21, 2005**

**Moved by Mr. Stycos and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Palumbo read the Resolution and presented it to the students.**

**Mrs. Peck made a Power Point presentation to the committee showing the artists and their award winning art work.**

**Mrs. Peck thanked the committee for allowing the Art Department the opportunity to showcase their department and some of the achievements they have gained this year.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**Mr. Palumbo stated that the committee was going to form a consent calendar. They would take a number of resolutions and package them together and vote one time for all of them. He told the committee that if a member wished to pull one of the resolutions and**

**make it an action item, they may do so. The consent calendar would include Resolution No.'s 05-3-2 to 05-3-12.**

**Mr. Stycos stated that he wished to take out Resolution No. 05-3-7.**

**Mr. Traficante stated that he wished to take out Resolution No. 05-3-5.**

**Mr. Archetto stated that he hoped that for the next meeting the resolutions would have the sponsor's name attached to it.**

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **PERSONNEL**

**NO. 05-3-2 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed for the remainder of the 2004-2005 school year:**

**Luis Mejia, salary to be at the tenth step plus Masters of the prevailing salary schedule**

**Education – University of Madre, BA; Rhode Island College, MA**

**Experience – Cranston Public Schools, Substitute**

**Certification – Middle/Secondary Spanish**

**Assignment – Cranston High School East, Spanish, 1.0 FTE**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 1, 2005**

**Authorization – Replacement**

**Fiscal Note: 11311012-512100**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Page 12      March 21, 2005**

**NO. 05-3-3 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**Elizabeth Lavalley      General Subject, K-12**

**Caroline Scheff      Music, PK-12**

**Joanne Woerner      Art, PK-12**

**Christopher Dietz      Music, PK-12**

**Carly Cerullo      Elementary, PK-2**

**Anthony Hoyle      Elementary**

**Michael DiMichele      Secondary Social Studies**

**John Savastano      General Subject K-12**

**Ann Marie Torres    General Subject, K-12**

**Nga-Yee (Mary) Leung    General Subject, K-12**

**Justin Anzeveno    Elementary, 1-6**

**Heather Ciesynski    Elementary, 1-6**

**Lisa Pennacchia    General Subject, K-12**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**NO. 05-3-4 -    RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XIX, Section B of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:**

**Melissa Kirrane, Teacher**

**Elementary**

**Effective Dates: September 2005 – September 2006**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**NO. 05-3-5 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Carol Moretti, Special Education  
Cranston High School East  
Effective Date: June 30, 2005**

**Francis White, ESL  
Cranston High School East  
Effective Date: June 30, 2005**

**Bonnie Rossi, English  
Park View Middle School  
Effective Date: June 30, 2005**

**Paula Malloy, English  
Western Hills Middle School  
Effective Date: June 30, 2005**

**Catherine DiSegna, English  
Western Hills Middle School**

**Effective Date: June 30, 2005**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mrs. Ciarlo commented that this Resolution has a number of people who are retiring with many years of experience. Combined they have 168 years of experience given to the Cranston Public Schools. Paula Malloy is retiring as an English teacher at Western Hills with thirty-five years of experience. Paula is an excellent English teacher, and she even managed to teach her oldest daughter English, and she is most grateful for that. Frank White has thirty-one years experience and has taught many of the ESL students at Cranston High School East. Bonnie Rossi is the Department Chair for English at Park View and has taught at Western Hills and taught her youngest daughter the importance of learning how to spell. She has thirty-two years of experience. Carol Moretti is the Special Education Department Chair at Cranston East and has thirty-five years of experience at Western Hills, Park View and Cranston East. Kathy DiSegna also had her oldest daughter at Western Hills. She is an outstanding teacher and Department Chair. She has thirty-five years of experience. Clearly it will not be easy to replace the quality and dedication of these individuals. They will be missed, and Mrs.**

**Ciarlo wished them well. She hoped the district would be able to find young Kathy's and your Paula's, etc. in the ranks.**

**Mr. Traficante noted the change from Frances White to Francis White.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**NO. 05-3-6 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Stacey Lehrer, Occupational Therapist**

**Cranston High School East**

**Effective Date – March 18, 2005**

**Russell Turk, Teacher**

**Cranston High School West**

**Effective Date – March 18, 2005**

**Richard James, Teacher**

**Bain Middle School**

**Effective Date – June 30, 2005**

**Suzan Lins, Science Teacher**

**Cranston High School East**

**Effective Date – June 30, 2005**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**NO. 05-3-7 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual be reappointed as an athletic coach:**

**CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL EAST**

**Richard Perrotta Head Boys' Tennis**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and carried that this Resolution be adopted. Mr. Stycos and Mr. Traficante were opposed.**

**NO. 05-3-8 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as athletic coaches:**

**Page 15      March 21, 2005**

**Michael Soscia, Head Girls' Lacrosse, Cranston High School West**

**Step – 2**

**Class – B**

**Playing Competition – None**

**Experience – Girls’ Lacrosse Club, Moderator**

**Certification – Rhode Island Coaches Certification; CPR/First Aid Certified**

**Ronald Lee, Head Boys’ Volleyball, Cranston High School East**

**Step – 6**

**Class – B**

**Playing Competition – None**

**Experience – Head Girls’ Volleyball Coach, Cranston High School East, 8 Years;**

**Assistant Boys’ Volleyball Coach, Cranston High School East, 7 Years**

**Certification – Rhode Island Coaching Certificate; CPR/First Aid Certified**

**John Palumbo, Head Coed Golf, Cranston High School East**

**Step – 3**

**Class – B**

**Playing Competition – College, Two Years**

**Experience – Assistant Coach, Coed Golf, Cranston High School East, 5 Years**

**Certification – Rhode Island Coaching Certificate, CPR/First Aid Certified**

**Clem Soscia, Head Boys’, Outdoor Track, Cranston High School West**

**Step – 6**

**Class – B**

**Experience – Head Coach, Boys' Track, Coventry**

**Certification – Rhode Island Coaching Certificate, CPR/First Aid  
Certified**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously  
carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**NO. 05-3-9 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the  
Superintendent, the resignation of the following coaches be  
accepted:**

**Ronald G. Lee, Assistant, Boys' Volleyball**

**Cranston High School East**

**Effective Date: February 15, 2005**

**James Raspallo, Assistant, Boys' Track**

**Cranston High School West**

**Effective Date: February 15, 2005**

**Page 16      March 21, 2005**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously  
carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**NO. 05-3-10 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employees be appointed:**

**Gail Broadbent, Secretary**

**Curriculum/Grants/Textbooks**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 14, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 16611015 515100**

**Tamara DeSousa, CNA Tester**

**Adult Education Program**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 7, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 51362142 512100**

**Karen Paquette, Three-Hour Library Secretary**

**Woodridge/Orchard Farms Schools**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 21, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 15125315 515500**

**Josefa German, Three-Hour Food Service Worker**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date of Employment – February 7, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 32347179 511000**

**Christina Pizzi, Three-Hour Food Service Worker**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date of Employment – February 10, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 32647179 511000**

**Bethany Gervais, Three-Hour Food Service Worker**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date of Employment – February 14, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 32347179 511000**

**Cilla Reilly, Three-Hour Food Service Worker**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date of Employment – February 28, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 33047179 511000**

**Page 17      March 21, 2005**

**Linda Donnelly, Three-Hour Food Service Worker**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 10, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 31347179 511000**

**Michael Burley, Four-Hour Custodian**

**Plant**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 22, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 12147481 518200**

**David Razza, Four-Hour Custodian**

**Plant**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 22, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 12147481 518200**

**Anthony Spruill, Four-Hour Custodian**

**Plant**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 22, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 11547418 518100**

**Melissa Funes, Three-Hour Food Service**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date of Employment – March 2, 2005**

**Fiscal Note: 32447179 511000**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**NO. 05-3-11 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**BUS DRIVER**

**Claude Melse**

**CUSTODIANS**

**Mark McGetrick**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Page 18      March 21, 2005**

**NO. 05-3-12 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignations of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:**

**Cheryl Parsons, Bus Monitor**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date – March 1, 2005**

**Theresa Reynolds, Instructor**

**Alternate Education**

**Effective Date – February 28, 2005**

**Gina Schiano, Bus Monitor**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date – March 3, 2005**

**Roberta Randall, Three-Hour Food Service**

**Food Service**

**Effective Date – March 8, 2005**

**Gail O'Brien, Secretary**

**Gladstone School**

**Effective Date – March 18, 2005**

**Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mr. Lupino and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

## **GRANTS**

**NO. 05-3-13 – RESOLVED, that the Cranston Public Schools submit to Electronic Data Systems (EDS), the following grants:**

**Streaming Video Clips in Park View Middle School Science  
\$1,297.49**

**Classroom Power Point Presentations**

**Web Page Development for Park View Middle School 8th  
Grade \$1,482.97**

**Science Students**

**Recording Studio to Support English Language Arts and \$1,500.00  
Theater, Academic Decathlon, and Mock Trial**

**Laser and Fiber Optics Communication Technology  
Project \$1,294.00**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously**

**carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Page 19      March 21, 2005**

## **BUSINESS**

**N0. 05-3-14 - RESOLVED, that the Second Budget Revision of the 2004-2005 budget be approved as recommended by the Superintendent.**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Stycos pointed out that the committee has to get away from these budget revisions. He thought they were very confusing. They move money around in accounts without the School Committee understanding the policy and implications of those movements. They also, by having so many items, obscure the policy changes that are contained in it. As an example, he referred to pages 68 and 69. At the end of page 68 and in through page 69, there are a lot of major budget item changes in the special education accounts. He felt it was important for the School Committee to know where the special education costs are going up and where they are going down, where the committee estimated too low and estimated too high. For the three items at the bottom of page 68, in the increase/decrease**

column, there is a \$3,000 increase, an \$8,000 decrease, and a \$22,000 increase. In the last budget adjustment, the account that is going up \$3,000 is an account that the committee cut. The one that is going down \$8,000 is one that the committee increased, and the one that is going down \$22,000 is also one the committee increased. On page 69, there are six more of those accounts. He commented further that it was impossible, unless one has all kinds of time, to figure out what is going on in these changes. This practice was also criticized in the Performance Audit. He read one of the findings from this report which stated, "The school department loses control over the expenditure budget because of numerous revisions made to the budget throughout the year. At present, there are extensive revisions to line items and the explanations for the revisions are scant. It is thus difficult to follow the revision process. This revision process does not allow a reviewer or a member of the School Committee to easily understand the funding source or budget implications inherent in these revisions." Mr. Stycos further stated that it was not necessarily that the revisions are bad or good; it is just that they can't, as a School Committee, do five revisions off an original budget and figure out what is going on over the year as to what is going up and what is going down.

Mr. Stycos referred to page 71 of the budget revision, a \$10,000 cut in the Director of Library Media salaries. He asked if Ms. Bryan had retired.

**Mr. Palumbo stated that, for whatever reason the committee ends up spending more in a particular account than they planned on spending, that money has to come from somewhere. If in the revisions they look at all of the accounts and are running over in a particular account, the bill has to be paid. If not as much is being spent in another account, the money has to be taken from that account. He doesn't see where this should cause confusion at all; it is an involved process, and there are many many items. There is no one on this administration, or for that matter on the School Committee, that**

**Page 20      March 21, 2005**

**is trying to hide anything from anyone. Nothing is clearer than to say \$10,000 was cut from one account and placed into another. If Mr. Stycos is saying that there are an awful lot of changes, there may be. This is a big complicated system. If the district runs over, the money has to be taken from somewhere else. He asked Mr. Stycos what he would do with a budget in his household when all of a sudden he went over on his grocery bill. He would have to take it from somewhere else because he would have to live within his budget. The School Committee has to live within their budget. No one is hiding anything, and by spelling it out this way, it is very clear that this is where the changes were made. Everyone has the right to question Mr. Balducci or anyone else on the administrative staff as to why the changes were made.**

**Mrs. Ciarlo added that the City tends to do their adjustments in the fourth quarter. Having a budget as close as the school department's, she can't wait until the fourth quarter to find out in the fourth quarter that the district is that far down in special education. It has to be monitored along the way. There are some things that can't be predicted. She asked if anyone predicted this past winter. Money has to be put back into plowing from another account because that amount of money was not budgeted. It is approved by the School Committee each time. If there are any questions that come up, administration tries to get the budget revision out far enough in advance so that any of the committee members can ask questions of administration. Any of the administrators will take the time necessary to answer questions. The first time the budget was revised was to align the account, and this is only the second revision. There are a lot of changes that take place in a school system in the course of the year, and they have to make sure they are always in balance because they cannot run a deficit.**

**Mr. Votto responded to Mr. Stycos' question regarding the Director of Library Services. He stated that Ms. Bryan still functions as the Director of Library Media Services. Her salary is reflective of that. This was a budgeted item earlier in the year, and the person or persons who were working out of this particular budget is now coming out of grants, and that is why the \$10,000 is left over. The \$10,000 was removed. Mrs. Ciarlo added that the additional stipend is**

included in her salary at Stadium School as principal. Instead of keeping \$10,000 in a little account, it is taken out and redistributed.

Mr. Stycos stated that he didn't make his point very well. His point was that if one is running a budget, he or she has to keep track of what accounts are going up and what accounts are down and make sure that the expenditures don't exceed the cash on hand. The School Committee members using the budget as a policy document, and it was mentioned in more detail in the Performance Audit, need to know where for the year they are going over. Some of the accounts go up one month and down next month, and at the end of the process it is very difficult to figure out what happened over the year. The legislature, like the City, does one budget at the end of the year. That doesn't mean that the State in May says that they are going to balance the budget. It

Page 21      March 21, 2005

means that people all year long have been carefully monitoring the situation, and at the end of the year, administration comes in with one alignment so that the legislature or the Council can see where the problems they are budgeting so that they can be corrected next year. This revision is impossible to follow, and he doesn't know if anything was intentional, but there is stuff buried in here. There are reclassifications listed again for pay raises that the committee hasn't heard about. There are a couple for secretaries, and if there is extra

money, the committee should be sitting down saying they can give an upgrade to a secretary or giving more money to the art program or the student newspaper. Instead, the committee gets this revision three or four times a year; and it is completely confusing and cuts the committee out of the decision making process.

Mrs. Ciarlo commented that there is nothing buried in those positions. If Mr. Stycos recalled, she sent out a series of memos in the updates defining what administration was doing and why they were doing it. The memos stated that unless she heard to the contrary or if anyone had any questions, she would move forward. She received no calls or questions from any School Committee member regarding that so she was going forward unless she heard to the contrary. She asked Mr. Stycos if he wanted her to wait until the fourth quarter to move money around and not hold themselves accountable. She didn't believe that this would be the best way to go.

She thought it would be important for administration to explain during different times of the year that money is needed in an account, and it happens in the big accounts, especially special education. It is brought before the committee so that administration can answer any questions they have; and then the committee votes on it. At that particular point, the committee as well as administration owns it, and no one is waiting until the fourth quarter to find out that an account was underestimated and would have to go to the City for more funds. The budget is being reviewed, and it is a recommendation of the Auditor General. Administration should be commended for their

**budget revisions rather than someone saying not to do them. There is nothing that is buried in this budget, and administration tries to answer all questions brought before them.**

**Mr. Palumbo stated to Mr. Stycos that he was very surprised by his comments. He didn't understand his logic in not letting the committee know the changes along the way, and wait until the end to let them know. He told Mr. Stycos that he knows the committee has to keep a running balance so that when they have these revisions it tells the committee where these changes have been made. With regard to the Performance Audit, that is a flawed document, and he wouldn't bring it into the conversation. He didn't understand Mr. Stycos's logic that he was confused because someone showed him the changes that were made. If there is anything he wants to know about accounts, all he has to do is ask. The committee has been at meetings for many hours because of the questions Mr. Stycos asks, and they have always been answered.**

**Mr. Traficante stated that based on his past experience as Mayor of the City, he had to give the City Council on a monthly basis a balance sheet showing the expenditures from**

**Page 22      March 21, 2005**

**various accounts in various departments. What Mr. Stycos is referring to is what the City Council must do by Charter which is**

during the fourth quarter the City Council must approve transfers between or among departments. The school department is one department, and if the Mayor wished to transfer money from the Public Works Department to the Police Department, he needed Council approval in order to do that; and that occurred during the fourth quarter. He still had to give the City Council a balance sheet or an accrual sheet on a monthly basis showing where the deficits were being formed or where the revenue was being generated.

Mr. Lupino commented to Mr. Stycos that it is pretty simplistic for him to say what he said. The committee is in a difficult position because at any given time during the year they cannot say “no more special education.” The committee doesn’t know who will move into the district or who will be assessed during the school year. That particular area is one good example why the committee needs to make these adjustments four times a year. It is too simplistic to say that a budget will be set, and that’s it; there is no more special education.

Mr. Stycos referred to page 71, the item above the Director of Library Media salaries, and noted that the curriculum secretary salary had a notation that said temporary vacancy but the salary is going up by \$3,200. He asked for an explanation. Mr. Votto responded that this position has an increase in hours. The secretary who was in that position was reduced to six hours, and now one-half of the position is no longer coming out of grant money. That is why the increase is

now in the Fund 1 account. This person was originally the PDI secretary and was reduced to six hours at that particular point; but because she was reduced, one-half was coming out of Grants, but it is now all coming out of Fund 1. Mr. Stycos asked what this had to do with a temporary vacancy. Mr. Votto responded that it was a typographical error. It should have been increase in hours coming out of Fund 1 and not increase in hours for the secretary.

Mr. Stycos referred to page 67 where there was an \$8,000 step increase, and noted that this seemed to be a rather big step increase. Mr. Votto explained that this individual brought forward information that she should get credit for her nursing experience which is a state law. The adjustment was made, and her information was verified.

Mr. Stycos referred to pages 63 and 64 and indicated that he calculated that approximately \$10,000 was being put into Adult Education in accounts where the School Committee voted to eliminate all money. He stated that if the committee votes to eliminate all money in a series of accounts and there is a recommendation from the administration that this be changed, that needs to be presented to the committee as a separate recommendation, not in a seventy-eight page document with hundreds of changes. He explained further that the adjustments were for telephone service and an Adult Education instructor. Mr. Balducci explained that last year when they were trying

to isolate the piece that belonged to Adult Education, the piece that belonged to Summer School, and the piece that belonged to Alternative Education, unfortunately they made some adjustments that were incorrect. He is now realigning this money to where it should be. The \$750 was an oversight. They do have phone service, and they should be charged for it, and it is properly being recorded now. Mr. Balducci said that he would have to check the specifics for the \$8,000 for an instructor. Mrs. Ciarlo explained that this money was to be used to pay instructors for the additional courses. Mr. Stycos stated that if the committee voted not to have the courses, and then the administration thinks it is necessary to have the courses, administration needs to come to the committee indicating that they have changed their minds and a change was needed in the budget rather than the change being in this huge document. The committee members have to ask endless questions in order to figure it out. Mrs. Ciarlo responded that this may have taken place during the transition. She was on sick leave at the time, and she would not have recommended this in the first place. She wants Adult Education to be self-sufficient, and they need instructors to be able to teach those courses. She thought that some of the charges that had been at Sanders School were being transferred to Norwood Avenue School because that is where Adult Education is located. She also thought that the overall allotment was reduced to Adult Education. A cut has already been made to Adult Education. If it would help the

**committee, she will send out a memo prior to the budget revisions.**

**This Resolution was adopted with Mr. Archetto and Mr. Stycos opposed.**

**NO. 05-3-15 - RESOLVED, that the following purchase be approved:**

**Student Planners in the amount of \$26,544.45**

**Number of bids issued 14**

**Number of bids received 8**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

## **POLICY AND PROGRAM**

**NO. 05-3-16 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the School Calendar for 2005-2006 be approved.**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Ms. Iannazzi moved to amend the School Calendar to change the graduation dates as follows: Cranston High School West to June 12, 2005 and Cranston High School East to June 13, 2005.**

**Mr. Lupino seconded the motion.**

**The amendment was adopted unanimously.**

**This Resolution as amended was adopted unanimously.**

**NO. 05-3-17 - RESOLVED, that Policy No. 4112.5, Athletic Coaches, be approved for first reading. (Policy is attached.)**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated that Mr. Flynn had mentioned legal action in his earlier comments and asked if this policy had been run by any form of legal counsel. Mr. Votto responded that the policy had been shown to legal counsel, and the decision was that the committee should move forward, and if they wished to have discussions with Mr. Flynn in between the first reading and the second reading, they could. Mr. Palumbo suggested that Mr. Flynn and Mr. Votto sit down to discuss this proposed policy at length before the second reading. The committee could vote on the first reading and have a subsequent meeting with Mr. Palumbo, Mr. Flynn, and Mr. Votto.**

Mr. Stycos asked that if the committee voted on the first reading at this meeting and then after meeting there is a recommendation to change it, would the committee have to vote on it twice. Mr. Palumbo stated that if the proposed policy is amended, it would have to be voted on twice. Mr. Stycos asked if there was a particular rush to vote on it tonight. Mr. Votto felt that the committee could vote on it tonight and then amend. The reason for separate meetings is to obtain input before the first reading and a timeframe to get input before the second reading. That is why policy requires two readings. It should be acted upon now in order to get input from others. He felt it could be amended at the second reading. That is the purpose of getting input in between. The committee does not have to vote on it a third time. If the committee is going to implement this policy, it would have to be implemented before fall sports begin so that the coaches could be notified. The fall season for sports begins in August. The athletic director and the principals meet with their coaches in July.

Mr. Lupino noted that part of this policy change evolved from the Coaching Committee he chaired last year. As strong as this may seem to Mr. Flynn and some members of the School Committee, it is actually watered down from what some of the people on the committee would like to have had. It is a great compromise and felt it didn't violate anything in the bargaining agreement. It is necessary and is something the players and parents have been looking for. Many of them were on the fields and courts with coaches that don't coach and who are not qualified in what they coach. The athletic

director would like to have a little more say in what goes on in the coaching ranks. Mr. Lupino said that he fully supports this policy. He asked that Mr. Traficante be included

Page 25      March 21, 2005

in the discussion as well. In the evaluation model, he suggested that another category be put in. The thought was to use the model of the teacher evaluation so that there was no possibility of a tie. If someone is adequate, that person could be less than adequate without being totally off the mark so he would add another category. There is a C-/D in there instead of an A, B, C, and F.

Mr. Stycos acknowledged that he was part of the effort to move forward on this. He does not find anyone at fault for this, but it does fall in the middle of negotiations with the teachers, and it makes him nervous to get in a dispute over whether or not something should be bargained in the middle of those negotiations. Although he does think it is an issue that the committee needs to move on, he doesn't think it is an issue they need to move on at this meeting.

Mr. Stycos moved to table this Resolution.

Ms. Iannazzi seconded the motion.

This motion failed with Mrs. Greifer, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Palumbo, and Mr.

**Traficante opposed.**

**This Resolution was adopted with Mr. Archetto, Ms. Iannazzi, and Mr. Stykos opposed.**

**NO. 05-3-18 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the revised curriculum guide and framework in the area of English Language Arts for Grades 6 through 12, be approved for first reading.**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mrs. Ciarlo commented that the committee has had an opportunity to review the documents. It is a comprehensive revision of the English/Language Arts curriculum. It is many long hours of hard work to align with the State. Mrs. Ciarlo recognized Mrs. Elaine Desjardins, Area Supervisor for English/Language Arts, who has done much to coordinate and make sure that this is an excellent document. It is user friendly and will be used. It is timely in the district's work to continue to upgrade the curriculum. She thanked those who participated in this revision. She urged the committee to support the first reading of this revision.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**NO. 05-3-19 – Whereas, Cranston Public Schools’ Summer School fees are low in comparison with other school districts throughout the state,**

**Page 26      March 21, 2005**

**Be it RESOLVED that the present Summer School fee for a make-up class for a Cranston resident be increased from \$90.00 to \$100.00; the present Summer School fee for a make-up class for a non-resident be increased from \$125.00 to \$150.00; and the Summer School fee for Physical Education/Health make-up classes be increased from \$55.00 to \$60.00 for all students.**

**Be it further RESOLVED to eliminate the acceptance of cash as payment for all Summer School make-up classes and enrichment classes. Only money orders or bank checks will be accepted.**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Lupino stated that in the agenda backup information there was listing of other school districts with the fees they charge. He noted that Warwick’s charge was approximately \$140 to \$160 for this same situation. Mr. Lupino stated to Mrs. Salone that Warwick Public Schools charges much more than Cranston and services a similar**

population. Mrs. Salone stated that it is in Warwick's best interest to send their students to Cranston because it is cheaper. Even for an out-of-district course, Warwick students would still spend less. Mr. Lupino asked Mrs. Salone if \$110 would be sufficient or if she could use more. Mrs. Salone responded that she could use more. Because they haven't increased fees in the past five years, she was skeptical to go from \$90 to \$125 because that is a \$35 raise. The agenda came out with a \$10.00 raise, and she subsequently met with the administration and Mr. Gebhart, Director of Summer School. They felt that \$20.00 was not a lot to ask initially, and then each year thereafter they could go up \$10.00 so that it wouldn't affect anyone too much. She knows that they are undercharging. Mr. Lupino asked if any of the students were eligible for aid from the State, and Mrs. Salone stated that she wasn't sure. If a parent comes forward with a financial need, a child is never precluded from Summer School because they can't pay the tuition. Mr. Gebhart commented that children who are under DCYF custody will have their tuition paid for by the State. Mr. Lupino stated that no one is being hurt who can't afford to pay for the courses.

Mr. Traficante asked Mrs. Salone that if the committee increased the fee to \$110, would her program become self-sustaining. Mrs. Salone stated that she believed her program was self-sustaining now.

Mrs. Greifer moved to amend this Resolution to increase the fee for residents from \$90.00 to \$110.

**Mr. Traficante seconded the motion.**

**Mrs. Stycos asked what this increase would mean for revenue for both the original motion and the amendment. Mrs. Salone responded that it would depend upon how**

**Page 27      March 21, 2005**

**many students come to take classes. Mr. Gebhart said that there was a little over 500 students last year which amounted to \$60,000 in income, and this met their expenses with a little left over. Mrs. Salone added that a \$10.00 increase on 500 students would be \$5,000.00, and a \$20.00 increase would be \$10,000 on 500 students. It also depends on other districts who may or may not have a summer school program. It is a very expensive program to run. She has heard that some districts are not going to run their program which means more students for Cranston. There are other districts who currently don't have a program and may start one.**

**Mr. Lupino asked if there was an issue regarding the parking lot lease and if the increase would help to offset the lease on the parking lot. Mrs. Salone distributed a memo that she had forwarded to Mr. Balducci in response to a question asked by Mr. Stycos regarding the parking situation and the lease. Mr. Stycos was concerned about the dollars being spent and if that money could be used in a better**

capacity. The number of students on average is 198. The parking lot across the street from the school that is leased holds forty parking spaces. The school is approximately short of 158 parking spaces. Mr. Stycos asked if on a typical day he would see 150 cars for the program. Mrs. Salone responded that this was not what she was saying. There are 198 potential cars. She has not had the time to count how many, but the parking lot is full Monday through Thursday with the exception of Fridays when there are no programs running. She is building on the programs every day. When the parking lot is full, Norwood Avenue is also full on both sides in front of residential homes. During the day it may not be a problem, but during the evening, if a resident wanted to have company, they could not park in front of the person's home. She has already had a few problems with Brooks Pharmacy because people are parking there as a result of the school's lot being full. Mr. Zisseron is working on a sign in front of the building which will state that it is a school. By state law, no parking is allowed in front of the school. He is trying to have the sign changed through the City Council by ordinance. To eliminate that, if the committee wants her to be more self-sufficient and also obtain more programs, she has to have a place for people to park. Not everyone will ride the bus and not everyone will carpool.

**This Amendment was adopted unanimously.**

**This Resolution as amended was adopted unanimously.**

**This Resolution no reads:**

**NO. 05-3-19 – Whereas, Cranston Public Schools’ Summer School fees are low in comparison with other school districts throughout the state,**

**Be it RESOLVED that the present Summer School fee for a make-up class for a Cranston resident be increased from \$90.00 to \$110.00; the present Summer School**

**Page 28        March 21, 2005**

**fee for a make-up class for a non-resident be increased from \$125.00 to \$150.00; and the Summer School fee for Physical Education/Health make-up classes be increased from \$55.00 to \$60.00 for all students.**

**Be it further RESOLVED to eliminate the acceptance of cash as payment for all Summer School make-up classes and enrichment classes. Only money orders or bank checks will be accepted.**

**NO. 05-3-20 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following Conferences/Field Trips of Long Duration be authorized:**

**Karen Amitrano, teacher at Woodridge School, to make a SALT Visit to the Alan Shawn Feinstein Elementary School on Broad Street,**

**Providence, RI on March 28, 29, 30, 31, and April 1, 2005.**

**Michele Simpson, Director of Early Childhood, to travel to Las Vegas, Nevada to attend the 26th Institute and Symposium from April 29 to May 7, 2005.**

**Deborah A. Salone, Director of the Cranston Alternate Education Program and Gayle S. Dzekevich, teacher at the Cranston Alternate Education Program, to travel to Anaheim, California to attend the Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) Conference from May 3, 2005 to May 7, 2005.**

**Kim Fera, Ruth Billings, Monica M. Orsi, Evelyn J. Baker, and Susan Marshall, all teachers at Arlington School, to travel to San Antonio, Texas, to attend the International Reading Association Conference from May 1, 2005 to May 4, 2005.**

**Marlene Gamba, Principal of Edgewood Highland School, and Joy Helmold, teacher at Edgewood Highland School, to travel to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to attend the NECC 2005 Conference (Technology Conference) from June 27, 2005 to June 30, 2005.**

**Steven Krous, teacher at Cranston High School West, and five students from the Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB) Team, to travel to Biloxi, Mississippi to compete in the National Competition from April**

**22, 2005 to April 25, 2005.**

**Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.**

## **VI. SPEAKERS – Non-agenda Items**

**There were no speakers on non-agenda items.**

**Page 29      March 21, 2005**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned.**

**There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at  
9:15 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Anthony J. Lupino  
Clerk**

## **PERSONNEL        4112.5**

### **ATHLETIC COACHES**

**All coaching positions, not just new positions or those in which the incumbent had decided he/she was not interested in reappointment will be adequately posted in each school building by the Superintendent. The position may at the discretion of the Athletic Director be advertised in a local newspaper.**

**Positions covered by this article shall be filled on the basis of the best qualified person available. Qualified person is defined as an applicant with knowledge and experience in the particular sport.**

**Coaches will be evaluated by the Athletic Director and Principal.**

**A coach will be evaluated yearly.**

**After a formal evaluation, the evaluators and the coach will agree on a time for a conference to be held as soon as practicable.**

**A coach will be allowed to review a copy of the evaluation and will have the right to discuss said evaluation with their evaluators and initial said evaluation before the evaluation is placed in their**

**personnel files.**

**Any complaints regarding a coach, made to the administration by any parent, student, or other person, which is considered in evaluating said coach will be promptly shared with said coach.**

**A satisfactory evaluation is required for a coach to be considered for appointment to a new position or a reappointment to their previous coaching assignment.**

**The Athletic Director will provide the coach with a copy of the position’s requirements. The coach will sign acknowledging receipt of said document.**

**Failure to comply with the requirements will result in the coach not being reappointed.**

**Policy Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_ CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ CRANSTON, RI**